

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

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R 281617Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1901

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1135

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, PO

SUBJ: AFM INSTITUTIONALIZATION

REFS: (A) LISBON 1000; (B) LISBON 1049

SUMMARY: CDS LEADER HAS DESCRIBED MEETINGS WITH AFM REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING IMPORTANT QUESTION OF SCOPE AND MODALITIES OF FUTURE POLITICAL ROLE OF MOVEMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY OFFICER SPOKE ON FEB 26 WITH ADELINO AMARO DA COSTA, VICE PRESIDENT OF CENTER SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDS). AMARO DA COSTA PRESENT AT FEB 21 SESSION AT WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) MET WITH FIVE MAIN POLITICAL PARTIES TO DISCUSS AFM INSTITUTIONALIZATION. DA COSTA WAS ALSO A
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PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANT IN THREE HOUR MEETING FEB 25 BETWEEN

AFM REPS, PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES, AND FIVE CDS LEADERS DURING WHICH CDS REACTION TO AFM PROPOSALS MADE KNOWN. AMARO DA COSTA HAD FOLLOWING TO SAY ABOUT THESE MEETINGS:

2. AT FEB 21 INITIAL SESSION AFM COMMITTEE OF EIGHT (GROUP DESIGNATED TO WORK OUT PLATFORM OF UNDERSTANDING, REF B), LAID OUT IN CLEAR FORM WHAT IT HAD IN MIND BY "INSTITUTIONALIZATION." IT BEGAN BY MAKING APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN STATEMENTS EACH OF WHICH TOUCHED ON AN AREA OF CONCERN FOR AFM. STATEMENTS IN FORM OF A DEMAND, FOLLOWING BY AN INTERROGATORY PHRASE.

3. AFM POINTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) AFM WANTS A SEPARATION BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN SPHERES OF GOVERNMENT, WITH MILITARY RETAINING RIGHT IT NOW HAS TO ENACT LEGISLATION IN MILITARY SPHERE. HOW CAN THIS BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED?

(B) AFM WANTS SOME CONTROL OVER LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES OF NEW GOVERNING BODIES WHICH NEW CONSTITUTION WILL ESTABLISH. WHAT SET UP WILL BEST ENSURE THIS?

(C) AFM BELIEVES THAT NEW CONSTITUTION SHOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH AFM PROGRAM. WHAT CAN WE DO TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE?

(D) AFM FEELS PRESENT EMERGENCY ECONOMIC PLAN IS A PROGRESSIVE DOCUMENT, AND WANTS TO ENSURE THAT NOTHING LESS PROGRESSIVE IS PASSED IN ECONOMIC FIELD BY FUTURE GOVERNMENT DURING "TRANSITION" PHASE (WHICH THEY NOW DEFINING AS THREE YEAR PERIOD COINCIDING WITH TERM OF ECONOMIC PLAN AND BEGINNING WITH ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.) WHAT MECHANISMS CAN BE DEvised TO ENSURE THIS?

(E) AFM WISHES TO MAKE SURE THAT MEMBERS OF NEW GOVERNMENT HAVE CONFIDENCE OF AFM. HOW CAN THIS BE ACCOMPLISHED?

(D) AFM WANTS TO ENSURE THAT NEW PRESIDENT TO BE ELECTED LATER THIS YEAR HAS CONFIDENCE OF MOVEMENT. HOW CAN WE BEST ENSURE THIS?

(G) AFM WANTS A MERGER OF ALL PARAMILITARY FORCES INTO A NEW COMBINED ORGANIZATION. WHO SHOULD CONTROL THIS FORCE? (EMG., AFM, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, PRESIDENT, ETC.)

(H) AFM WANTS TO REMAIN PART OF POLITICAL PROCESS DURING A "TRANSITIONAL PERIOD" AFTER ELECTION OF NEW PRESIDENT. HOW LONG SHOULD THIS PERIOD BE AND WHAT MODALITIES SHALL AFM PARTICIPATION TAKE?

(I) AFM BELIEVES MILITARY SHOULD BE RESTRUCTURED AND THAT IT CONFIDENTIAL

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SHOULD HAVE NEW TASKS IN FUTURE. WHAT FUTURE ROLES ARE APPROPRIATE FOR MILITARY?

(J) AFM BELIEVES COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED. WHO SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO SERVE AND HOW LONG, ETC.?

(K) THESE STATEMENTS AND QUESTIONS WERE VERBAL AND NOT WRITTEN. INITIAL RESPONSE OF PARTIES AS FOLLOWS: PCP APPROVED OF EACH DEMAND. MDP MADE STATEMENT THAT NO HONEST PARTY COULD FIND ANY OBJECTION TO WHAT AFM SEEKING. PPD, CDS, AND SOCIALIST REPS

OBJECTED TO AFM LEGISLATIVE POWERS WHICH SHOULD BELONG RIGHTFULLY TO ELECTED CIVILIANS, AFM "VETO" OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES, AND AFM CONTROL OF CERTAIN CABINET SLOTS IN FUTURE. THESE OBJECTIONS MADE FOR RECORD AND NOT IN ANSWER TO ANY DIRECT DEMAND.

5. AMARO DA COSTA TERMED PRIVATE MEETING WITH AFM AND PM FEB 25 VERY CORDIAL. CDS PRESENTED AFM WITH 19-POINT WRITTEN REPLY TO ITS DEMANDS. (IN ITS REPLIES IT MENTIONED AFM DEMANDS.) IN ADDITION TO RESPONDING TO AFM PROPOSALS, CDS MADE 8 SUGGESTIONS OF ITS OWN.

6. CDS BELIEVES, BASED ON INFORMATION FROM SUPPORTERS IN AFM ASSEMBLY OF 200, THAT AFM COMMITTEE OF EIGHT HAS OVERSTEPPED ITS MANDATE FROM ASSEMBLY. ACCORDING TO AMARO DA COSTA, THAT MANDATE WAS ONLY TO RAISE CERTAIN TOPICS OF CONCERN TO MOVEMENT WITH POLITICAL PARTIES. MANDATE WAS NOT TO STATE DEMANDS, ONLY TO SEEK OPINIONS. THIS IS REASON WHY CDS BELIEVES COMMITTEE OF EIGHT MADE DEMANDS ORALLY AND NOT IN WRITING; THIS ALSO WHY CDS MENTIONED DEMANDS IN ITS REPLY. CDS REPLY WAS DESIGNED, ACCORDING TO AMARO DA COSTA, TO GIVE AMMUNITION TO MODERATE ELEMENTS IN ASSEMBLY AND WAS BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT AFM AND PARTIES WILL BE UNABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT DURING FIRST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAS TERMINATED.

7. INITIAL FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT WILL MEAN THAT ASSEMBLY WILL AGAIN HAVE TO GRAPPLE WITH INSTITUTIONALIZATION QUESTION. CDS BELIEVES ITS CONSTRUCTIVE, MODERATE PROPOSALS, AND THOSE IT EXPECTS PPD AND SOCIALISTS MADE, WILL FIND THEIR WAY INTO NEXT INSTITUTIONALIZATION AGENDA. IN ADDITION, IT HOPES COMMITTEE OF EIGHT WILL DRAW CENSURE FOR OVERSTEPPING MANDATE. CDS IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CHANCES OF AFM ULTIMATELY PRODUCING MODERATE INSTITUTIONALIZATION PACKAGE CDS CAN LIVE WITH.

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8. COMMENT: AMARO DA COSTA HAS BEEN RELIABLE INFORMANT IN PAST. HIS ACCOUNT OF AFM PROPOSALS DIFFERS SLIGHTLY FROM THOSE PROPOSALS REPORTED EARLIER (REF B). EARLIER REPORTS BASED ON SECOND HAND ACCOUNTS, WHEREAS DA COSTA A PARTICIPANT. SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSALS IS BASICALLY SAME, HOWEVER.
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